

The Great War—1297th Day

Kaiser Planning
Drive in Balkans,
Envoys DeclareGreek and Serbian Diplo-
mats Call for Aid to
Save Salonica

Allies Called Negligent

One of Major Phases of War
Disregarded, Says States-
man Here

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Military intelligence received here leaves no doubt in the minds of the Balkan diplomats that the Central Powers are planning a big drive on the Balkan front. The information indicates that the enemy powers have as their objective Salonica, and uneasiness is manifest on account of the lack of adequate Allied preparations for the shock.

The Greek and Serbian governments, it is understood, fear that the Entente governments are neglecting one of the major phases of the war in postponing the assistance expected by Greece, particularly in the mobilization of her army, and also in their hesitancy to adopt an offensive attitude in the Balkan theatre, with the double object of severing the communications between the Teutonic powers and Turkey and of establishing physical contact with Rumania for the relief of that country.

400,000 Greeks Ready

A Balkan diplomat said today: "There is no longer any doubt that the enemy forces will strike for Salonica, and intelligence received from various parts of the Balkans reveals that they are preparing for a drive. It is up to the Allies to give us the means of facing the blow."

"Greece is not prepared to reply to the expected attack, as she has neither guns, ammunition nor other equipment for her army. She is ready to put 400,000 soldiers in the field whenever this assistance is received, provided, of course, it does not come too late."

"Every day there is increasing evidence of the enthusiasm of the people of Greece over the war, and the Allies ought morally as well as materially to support her. It would be a pity for them to make the mistake of giving German propaganda an opportunity of taking advantage of the present situation to convince the population that the Allies are not giving Greece the help she requires."

Greece Lacks Supplies

"That such propaganda may be effective is proved by the success it achieved in the Italian army. It could not be strange should it have success in Greece, which has not even yet been enabled to play a full part in the war on account of lack of war supplies. Then, morally, too, the Allies can sustain the Greek spirit by assuring the country that the integrity of the territories shall be maintained. It is a matter of wonder to some that such assurances have proceeded neither

from the Allies nor from the United States.

"It is utopian to think that either Bulgaria or Turkey will retire from the war and abandon the Teutonic coalition. Bulgaria might be induced to desert her Germanic supports only by guaranteeing the Allies that she would be given Greek and Serbian territory, which concession the Allies would give the lie to their professions of non-imperialistic principles, and this, of course, is not conceivable. The Allies would never betray their own friends and allow an enemy to accomplish at the expense of themselves what they deny to themselves."

Allied Drive Necessary

"So, too, with Turkey. The Allies cannot abandon their projects for liberating the oppressed nationalities in Turkey without betraying a trust of civilization; but otherwise Turkey never will consent to a separate peace. The only thing for the Allies to do is to strengthen their army at Salonica, assume the offensive and move upon Sofia. There they would cut the communications between the Central Powers and Turkey, and thus Turkey would be compelled to sue for peace. This also would make it possible for the Allies to establish communications with Rumania, which now occupies an impossible position."

France to Take Over
Merchant MarineMarch 10 Set as Date for
Requisitioning All Vessels

PARIS, Feb. 16.—A decree published in the "Journal Officiel" this morning provides for the requisitioning of the entire merchant marine of France on March 10.

Government commissioners will confer with the shipowners as to the conditions under which the government will take over the vessels.

American Artillery
Praised for SkillChampagne Success Said to
Prove Mastery of Exact
Co-operation

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The "Irish Times," in a leading article today, says the attack carried out by French infantry in the Champagne on February 13, though on a minor scale, was of some importance, having for its object the elimination of a troublesome salient. Continuing the newspaper says: "The attack was completely successful, being pressed home to the third line of German defences and yielding 150 prisoners."

"In this action American guns played a part which the French, the most expert artillerymen in Europe, were quick to praise. The American batteries effectively destroyed the German defences in artillery preparation. They covered the French assault with a rolling barrage, cut off the rear communications of the enemy, and after the capture of the objective lengthened the French infantry's new position."

"The incident is important as showing that already the American forces have fully mastered the intricate technicalities and exact co-operation which modern warfare demands. This is full of promise for the larger part which the American army is destined soon to play on the Western front."

"The American republic has begun to repay the debt owed to the first republic of Europe, and this time as Great Britain stands with them in vindication of the great principles which it is their mission to assert before the world."

"Der Tag" Passes
With No Sign of
Teuton OffensiveArtillery and Infantry
Fighting Slackens, to
the Contrary

LONDON, Feb. 16.—Yesterday, the day freely advertised by the Germans as set for their first great military blow against the Allies this year, brought no unusual activity anywhere on the Western front, but, if anything, a slackening of both artillery and infantry fighting, which was likewise noticeable today.

Small enterprises of moderate success were undertaken by the British in Flanders, by the French in Champagne and by the Germans along the Alsace-Lorraine frontier, but signs of general offensive action were entirely lacking. Berlin reports to-night increased artillery activity in the Champagne, between Tahure and Ripont, in the general sector where American gunners have been playing an important role in aid of the French. A German raiding party was easily defeated in an attempt to enter Pélain's defensive lines near Villers-sur-Tourbe, in the Champagne; this was the only action reported to-night on that front.

East of St. Mihiel, where General Pershing's forces are established, the Germans claim to have carried out "small and successful enterprises," of which Paris makes no mention.

Flanders British detachments last night raided the enemy's trenches in the vicinity of the Ypres-Staden railway, taking eleven prisoners. In the Lens region the duel of the big guns was maintained with "little diminution in intensity."

Dutch Denounce Arrest
Of Brussels JudgesHolland Minister Condemns De-
portation of Magistrates by
Germany

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 16.—According to the "Rotterdamse Courant," the Dutch Minister at Brussels has energetically protested to the German authorities in Belgium against the situation that has arisen in consequence of the recent arrest and deportation of the three presidents of the Brussels Court of Cassation for their action in opposition to the Flemish separatist movement.

The newspaper asserts that the strike inaugurated by the Brussels courts in protest against the German action in arresting the magistrates will spread, leaving the country entirely without courts of justice.

The Germans charge that the arrested magistrates had received orders from Havre, and therefore had been involved in prohibited relations with the Belgian government.

Four Americans
Killed in BattleOne Other Wounded and
Two Missing on the
French Front

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—General Pershing advised the War Department today that four American infantrymen have been killed in action, one slightly wounded and two are missing. Two men were killed February 8, one February 9 and one on February 14.

Those killed were: Privates Ferdinand Sauer, Washington; John J. White, Epworth, Iowa; James Nesbitt, Quincy, Colo., and Louis J. Spack, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Privates Edward Roberts, 417 West Sixteenth Street, New York City, and John W. Hill, Berry, Ala., are missing. Private Marshal B. Farnum, Inkster, N. D., was slightly wounded.

Strikes May Cost Exemption

Draft Board Ruling Likely to
Affect Shipbuilding Situation

The attention of the 183 local draft boards in this city yesterday was called to the fact that they should notify the district board of the failure of any registrants who have been exempted on industrial grounds to continue at the work in which they were engaged.

This was taken to mean that strikers in the shipbuilding industry might lose their deferred classification.

Since the district board has exclusive jurisdiction in industrial cases, action in such cases can be taken only by it.

The Tribune learned authoritatively last night that the New York district board has not yet formulated any special policy in regard to strikers who are exempted from the draft, but will act on individual cases referred to it on their merits.

Postal Workers to Act as
Government Labor Agents

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Appointment of Roger W. Babson, the statistician, who is a special agent of the Labor Department's employment service, as director of a newly created division of industrial relations of the Committee on Public Information, was announced today.

John B. Denmore, director of the United States Employment Service, said today arrangements had been made with the Postoffice Department whereby 44,706 fourth class postmasters, 43,314 rural mail carriers, and 9,719 village postmasters will act as labor agents for the service. The service now maintains fifty-six employment offices in various states and is directly cooperating with 115 state employment offices.

Krupp Dividend Lower;
Building New Plants

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 20 (By mail).—The Krupp company has reduced its annual dividend and is paying only 10 per cent. Last year it paid 12 per cent. The annual report of the company says that the increasing demands of the army have necessitated the spending of a large share of the profits on new plants.

THE HOTEL BELLECLAIRE
Broadway at 77th Street, New York.
The home of Apple Pie and other good things to eat.
Robert D. Blackman, Proprietor.

U. S. SOLDIERS' GRAVES IN FRANCE.



The first men of the United States army killed in France were buried in a little plot in a cemetery just outside the ruined village of Bethelmont, in Lorraine. The inscription over the graves gives the names and home towns of the soldiers and tells how they died in an engagement November 3. The visitors shown in this photograph are Americans.

Aviator Describes
Cruelty of Prison
Camp in GermanyBritish Flier Brutally Crip-
pled Before He
Escaped

A tale of the systematic cruelty which the Germans employ to break the spirits and bodies of their prisoners was told in this city last night by Arthur Barton Cragg, formerly of the Royal Flying Corps, who escaped from the prison camp at Muenster and bears on his own body the marks of his captors' brutality.

Cragg is not as tall as he was, for beatings with a rifle butt have made him a hunchback, and his life will doubtless be shortened because a depression in his side has made seven broken ribs that were not mended press against his heart. These he got because he tried to escape from Germany.

He has seen more than three years' service with the British forces, first in the infantry, where, as the British pressed forward and retook conquered territory, he saw evidence of the massacre and mutilation of women and children who had been prisoners of the Germans, and then in the Royal Flying Corps, to which he was attached at the time of his capture.

The plane in which Cragg was an observer was forced down more than a year and a half ago. The pilot of the machine was shot through the head in a fight that began 15,000 feet above the battlefield. The crippled machine fluttered to the ground behind the German lines, and Cragg had only time to see it burned and to destroy the papers he had with him before he was taken.

He avoided giving information to the intelligence office at Dorp and at once began to plan his escape. In his first attempt an officer with him was killed and he was taken back. As a punishment, he was laid across a barbed wire fence and then on his back, and beaten with the heavy end of a rifle, while the Germans joked around him.

With seven broken ribs and a badly damaged back, he bled internally, with no more medical attention than one of

his comrades could give him by binding him up with a torn pair of trousers. He was allowed six ounces of black bread and four ounces of potato peelings daily for food.

He escaped by crawling through fields till he reached the coast, and headed back to his own lines, buying himself by night. He was patched up by Japanese surgeons and nurses behind the lines in France, and wears a solid silver kneecap as a souvenir.

Official Statements

West
BRITISH

LONDON, Feb. 16 (DAY).—A successful raid was carried out by Lancashire troops early last night in the neighborhood of the Ypres-Staden railway. Eleven prisoners were taken by our troops and our casualties were slight.

FRENCH

PARIS, Feb. 16 (DAY).—In Champagne, in the region of Villers-sur-Tourbe, and in upper Alsace, south of Burehanville-Bas, the French repulsed German raiding parties. The French carried out an enterprise in the sector of Vunquois and brought back prisoners.

GERMAN

BERLIN, Feb. 16 (DAY).—There has been artillery activity, which increased in the evening, in the Champagne, between Tahure and Ripont.

Italian Front
ITALIAN

ROME, Feb. 16.—Owing to the bad weather yesterday there was very little fighting in the mountainous areas. Only in the region of Astro was there any fighting, there being a brisk artillery engagement and patrol encounters along the front.

On the Monte British reconnoitering parties crossed the Piave and reached the enemy lines. There were only the usual artillery actions in the lower reaches of the front. One of our pilots, starting from the bridgehead at Capo Sile, surprised a small force of the enemy, inflicted casualties and returned without losses.

General Kaledine
Again Reported Dead

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The American Consul at Tiflis today transmitted an unconfirmed report that General Kaledine, the Cossack leader in the Ukraine who resisted the ambitions of the Bolsheviks, had suddenly dropped out of sight and is said to be dead.

War Simplicity
Marks Funeral
Of Spring-RiceMr. and Mrs. J. P. Morgan
Attend Impressive Ser-
vice in Ottawa

Wilson Is Represented

Tributes Sent by Many Men
Prominent in United States
and Canada

OTTAWA, Feb. 16.—Wartime simplicity marked the funeral here today of Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, former British Ambassador to the United States, who died suddenly last Thursday at Government House.

Leading representatives of the diplomatic, military, professional and business interests of the Dominion assembled at St. Bartholomew's Church to do the dead diplomatist honor. The casket, covered with the Union Jack, reposed in front of the chancel and was flanked by a profusion of flowers, which included a wreath bearing the card of President and Mrs. Wilson. A bouquet was sent by Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Morgan, of New York, who numbered Sir Cecil and his family as their close friends and who had come here for the funeral.

Other tributes were from men widely known in the United States and Canada. The Canadian Club of Ottawa, which the dead Ambassador addressed less than two weeks ago, sent large wreaths of the national flowers.

The impressive service was read by Bishop Roper, of the Anglican Diocese, assisted by the Rev. F. W. Brewin, rector of the church where Canada's Governors have always worshipped, and by the Rev. W. A. Reade. At the conclusion of the service the casket was placed in a vault in Beechwood Cemetery, where it will remain until the British government has decided whether it shall find its last resting place in England.

The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Lady Spring-Rice and her children,

Anthony and Betty, occupied the first pew, and directly behind them sat Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, with a number of army and naval officers.

President Wilson was represented by Counsellor Frank L. Polk, of the State Department, who sat with Sir Robert Borden, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir Charles Fitzpatrick.

Capital Holds Memorial
Service for Spring-Rice

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Memorial services for Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the late British Ambassador here, were held today at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, at the same time funeral services were being conducted in Ottawa.

President Wilson and many members of the diplomatic corps attended the services here. At Ottawa the President was represented by Counsellor Polk, of the State Department.

Vienna Paper Doubts
West Drive Will WinAllies Have Too Many Men
and Defences, Says "Neue
Freie Presse"

The New York Tribune Foreign Press Bureau

A successful offensive on the West front is impossible in the opinion of the "Neue Freie Presse," of Vienna. After speaking of the successful operations against the Russian and Italian fronts, it says of the West front:

"The West front is entirely different. It is characterized by its rectilinear form, the extraordinarily dense and deep grouping of the troops, the abundance of its fortifications and the perfection of its transport system. There are at least three times as many men per mile on the West front as there were on the Italian front at the beginning of our last offensive there, and they are soldiers of the highest efficiency. The backbone of the defence is composed of enormous masses of artillery, with shells in unlimited quantities. And this does not take into account trench mortars, tanks and other subsidiary engines of war. The precision of the enemy artillery work is beyond question."

"Moreover, the French system of permanent fortifications, even though the war has shown that permanent fortresses do not come up to expectations, must be counted with, for, added to the other factors, they greatly strength-

en the enemy line. The advantage of the fortress of Verdun is a factor of strength more than overcomes the disadvantage of the salient exposed on two sides to German attack. If that sector they would break through in Verdun was a formidable obstacle, the other French fortresses are just as big obstacles."

"In addition the railroad lines and automobile roads of France have been marvelously developed for military purposes. Troops can be transported with the greatest rapidity to stop within any hole that might be made in the lines. Thus, it seems that when all the factors are taken into account, one is forced to say, 'It is impossible to break through on that front.'"

Died Serving Their
Country Abroad

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—General Pershing today reported these deaths from natural causes:

PARKER, James A., sergeant; pneumonia; Hingham, Mass.

M'GOLDRICK, Joseph J., private; pneumonia; 414 West Forty-sixth Street, New York City.

SWANN, Howard G., private; pneumonia; Piney Point, Md.

PEARSON, Randolph L., private; bronchitis; Essex, New York City.

REPPE, Toma, private; nephritis; Newark, Ohio.

PURDLING, Farm, private; Empyema; Ossian, Ind.

MAYNARD, Nelson G., private; dilatation of heart; Northfield, Vt.

BOYER, Raymond C., Signal Corps; scarlet fever; West Reading, Penn.

Many German Bodies
Ashore in SwedenNaval Engagement Believed to
Have Been Fought Near
Skagerrak

LONDON, Feb. 16.—Belief that a naval engagement has occurred is expressed in a dispatch received in Stockholm from Gothenburg and forwarded by the correspondent of the "Morning Post." The dispatch reports the recovery of a large number of bodies of German sailors who apparently belonged to a warship.

Gothenburg is on the western coast of Sweden and is near the Skagerrak, one of the bodies of water connecting the North and Baltic seas and the one nearest the North Sea. The North Sea is in the vicinity of the Skagerrak has been the scene of previous naval engagements, the great Battle of Jutland having been fought not far away.

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in Fashionable New Lengths.

TWO new Coat-Cape models for immediate wear, of two-color combination wool tricotine, with full cape back.

One model with coat front, the other with full length jacket front; flat roll or adjustable cape collar.

39.50 and 49.50

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SMARTLY tailored sleeveless waist with pleated bosom, Eton collar and front of waist edged with self fluted ruffles, black satin ribbon tie; made of various fabrics, including:

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In white, flesh, bisque or Copen.	9.75
Sleeveless H'dk'f Linen Waist.	
In white, flesh, Copen, maize or rose.	5.75
Sleeveless Dimity Waist.	
Of white striped or cross-bar dimity.	4.95

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Plaid Worsted Skirts for Spring—
Featuring Beige with Contrasting Colors.

STRICTLY tailored models for women and misses; new pleated effects in notable color combinations of plaids, large and small; beige color predominates in many of these plaids combined with high colors.

Also smart plain color Prunella cloth skirts with new checked or striped border effects.

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